United Nations E/C.2/2012/1

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
25 January 2012

Original: English

**Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations**
**2012 regular and resumed sessions**
30 January-8 February, 17 February 2012, 21-30 May and 8 June 2012
Item 2 of the provisional agenda
**Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters**

# Provisional agenda and annotations

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Applications for consultative status and requests for reclassification received from non-governmental organizations:
   (a) Applications for consultative status and requests for reclassification deferred from previous sessions of the Committee;
   (b) New applications for consultative status and new requests for reclassification;
   (c) Applications of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council that have merged with non-governmental organizations without such consultative status.
4. Quadrennial reports submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council:
   (a) Deferred quadrennial reports submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Council;
   (b) Review of quadrennial reports submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Council.
5. Strengthening of the Non-Governmental Organizations Branch of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat.
6. Review of the methods of work of the Committee: implementation of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31, including the process of accreditation of representatives of non-governmental organizations, and Council decision 1995/304:
   (a) Process of accreditation of representatives of non-governmental organizations;

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(b) Consideration of issues on the agenda of the informal working group;

(c) Other related matters.

7. Consideration of special reports.

8. General voluntary trust fund in support of the United Nations Non-Governmental Organizations Informal Regional Network.

9. Provisional agenda and documentation for the 2013 session of the Committee.

10. Adoption of the report of the Committee.

## Annotations

### 1. Election of officers

In accordance with rule 18 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council, each year, at the commencement of its first meeting, the Committee elects its Chairperson and four Vice-Chairpersons. In accordance with rule 19, Bureau members are eligible for re-election. One of the Vice-Chairpersons is later designated to serve also as Rapporteur.

### 2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

In accordance with rule 13 of the rules of procedure of the Council, the Committee shall, at the beginning of each session, after the election of its officers, adopt the agenda for that session on the basis of the provisional agenda. The provisional agenda for the current session was approved by the Council in its decision 2011/233.

### 3. Applications for consultative status and requests for reclassification received from non-governmental organizations

### (a) Applications for consultative status and requests for reclassification deferred from previous sessions of the Committee

The Committee will consider applications and requests for reclassification deferred from the sessions of previous years.

**Documentation**

Applications received from non-governmental organizations for consultative status with the Economic and Social Council deferred from previous sessions of the Committee held during the period 1999-2011 (E/C.2/2012/CRP.1) and request for reclassification deferred from 2011 (E/C.2/2012/CRP.3)

### (b) New applications for consultative status and new requests for reclassification

The Committee will consider new applications for consultative status and new requests for reclassification from non-governmental organizations and will act thereon.

**Documentation**

New applications received from non-governmental organizations for consultative status with the Economic and Social Council: memorandums by the Secretary-General (E/C.2/2012/R.2 and R.2/Add.1-18 and corrigenda)

Requests for reclassification: memorandum by the Secretary-General (E/C.2/2012/R.3)

**(c) Applications of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council that have merged with non-governmental organizations without such consultative status**

The Committee considers new applications from non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Council that have merged with non-governmental organizations without such consultative status.

**Documentation**

No new applications have been received

**4. Quadrennial reports submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council**

**(a) Deferred quadrennial reports submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Council**

**(b) Review of quadrennial reports submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Council**

In accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31, organizations in consultative status with the Council are required to submit, every fourth year, a report on their activities relating to, or in support of, the United Nations. The Committee will consider deferred quadrennial reports (1999-2010) and quadrennial reports submitted for the period 2007-2010.

**Documentation**

Compilation of quadrennial reports submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council deferred from previous sessions held during the period 1999-2011 (E/C.2/2012/CRP.2)

Quadrennial reports for the period 2007-2010: notes by the Secretary-General (E/C.2/2012/2 and Add.1-24)

**5. Strengthening of the Non-Governmental Organizations Branch of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat**

The Secretariat will report orally.

**6. Review of the methods of work of the Committee: implementation of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31, including the process of accreditation of representatives of non-governmental organizations, and Council decision 1995/304**

**(a) Process of accreditation of representatives of non-governmental organizations**

**(b) Consideration of issues on the agenda of the informal working group**

At its 2000 session, the Committee established an informal working group, open to all members of the Committee, to review its methods of work, including accreditation issues, procedures, coordination with the secretariat of the Commission on Human Rights, enhancement of the non-governmental organizations information process and security issues.

**(c) Other related matters**

Organizations requesting name changes.

**Documentation**

Compilation of requests for name change received by the Secretariat (E/C.2/2012/CRP.4)

**7. Consideration of special reports**

**8. General voluntary trust fund in support of the United Nations Non-Governmental Organizations Informal Regional Network**

In its decision 2002/225, the Council established the general voluntary trust fund and requested the Non-Governmental Organizations Branch to identify and obtain the necessary financial, human and technical resources needed to carry out, in partnership with non-governmental organizations, Governments and other interested stakeholders, the development projects envisaged in the future framework of the United Nations Non-Governmental Organizations Informal Regional Network.

The Secretariat will report orally.

**9. Provisional agenda and documentation for the 2013 session of the Committee**

In its resolution 1894 (LVII), the Council requested the Secretary-General to submit at each session of a subsidiary body of the Council a draft provisional agenda for its following session, together with information relating to documentation.

**10. Adoption of the report of the Committee**

The Committee is required to report to the Council on its regular session.

United Nations E/C.2/2012/2

# Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
2 August 2012

Original: English

**Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations**
**2012 regular session**
30 January-8 February 2012

## Quadrennial reports for the period 2007-2010 submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council through the Secretary-General pursuant to Council resolution 1996/31

**Note by the Secretary-General**

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## 1. ALDET Centre (Saint Lucia)

**Special, 2007**

**Introduction**

ALDET Centre is an international human rights organization acting for and on behalf of indigenous peoples and local communities in approximately 61 countries.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

The organization coordinates activities relating to:

(a) Preservation, protection, development and promotion of the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities;

(b) Associated national, subregional, regional and international activities;

(c) Participation with member organizations of the United Nations Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Issues.

**Significant changes in the organization**

ALDET Centre created and coordinated the following organizations:

- Indigenous People (Bethechilokono) of Saint Lucia Governing Council
- Caribbean Antilles Indigenous Peoples Caucus and the Diaspora
- Small Island Developing States 2005 Mauritius Initiative
- Saint Lucia Commission on Human Rights
- Self-Governing Administrative Mechanism of the Indigenous People (Bethechilokono) of Saint Lucia
- Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore International and coordinating committees for Africa, the Americas, Asia, Europe and the Pacific, with a membership in 61 countries.

ALDET Centre is a member of Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore International; World Indigenous Nations Sport International; Indigenous World Association; the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) NGO Network; the World Bank civil society network; and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) civil society network.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

**2007**. Guidelines for enhancing the participation of major groups in the United Nations Environment Programme at the governance level, August;

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights: Questionnaire on a human rights-based approach to development in the context of indigenous peoples.

**2008**. Seventh session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, New York, April-May;

Ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, Bonn, Germany, May;

Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Geneva, October.

**2009**. Submitted a Kwéyòl translation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples to the secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues for publication on its website, June 2009.

**2010**. Established national coordinating committees in countries of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) for the protection of genetic resources, traditional knowledge and folklore.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

**2007**. International Indigenous Expert Consultation on Access and Benefit-Sharing of the Convention on Biological Diversity, Montreal, September 2007;

UNEP Latin America and Caribbean Civil Society Forum, Monterrey, Mexico, October.

**2008**. Sixteenth meeting of the Forum of Ministers of the Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean, Santo Domingo, January-February;

Preparatory Committee for the review conference on the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, Geneva;

Meeting of the Working Group on Access to Genetic Resources and Fair and Equitable Sharing of the Benefits Arising from their Utilization, Quito, April;

UNEP Latin America and Caribbean Civil Society Forum, Buenos Aires, November;

Twelfth to seventeenth sessions of the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), Geneva, 2008-2010.

**2009**. Durban Review Conference, Geneva, April;

National consultations sponsored by WIPO and CARICOM in Belize, Dominica, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago on the establishment of a regional framework for the protection of traditional knowledge, folklore and genetic resources between March and October.

**2010**. World Bank meeting on indigenous peoples, Washington, D.C., April;

Ninth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, New York, April;

Global Environment Facility Council consultations with civil society organizations and Council meeting, Washington, D.C., June-July.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

(a) Coordinated income-generating arts and crafts projects on sustainable development, taking into account intellectual property rights, for approximately 15,000 indigenous persons in Saint Lucia;

(b) Encouraged sustainable and renewable use of indigenous raw materials;

(c) Observed annually the International Day of the World's Indigenous People, International Day for Biological Diversity, World Environment Day, International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development, International Migrants Day, Human Rights Day and World Food Day.

## 2. Al-Hakim Foundation

**Special, 2007**

**Introduction**

Al-Hakim Foundation is a non-profit educational and social welfare organization established in Iraq in 2003 to promote intellectual excellence, religious dialogue and cultural understanding.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

The Foundation is based upon moderation and encourages dialogue among revealed religions, religious schools and doctrines, and the mobilization of society against discrimination, chauvinism and factionalism.

**Significant changes in the organization**

Since 2007, Al-Hakim Foundation has extended its affiliation with the following organizations: (a) Al-Imam Ali schools: primary and elementary schools in three Iraqi provinces; (b) Al-Shaikh Al-Tusi University; (c) Muslim Women's Organization; (d) Dar Al-Hikma School for Humanitarian Sciences; (e) Islamic Gathering for Iraqi Students; Al-Raya Students Gathering; (f) Documentary centre for victims buried in mass graves; (g) Mahdi Al-Hakim Institute for training staff and leaders; (h) Al-Imam Mohsen Al-Hakim Institute for Women; (i) Al-Rafidain Children's Foundation. It also collaborated with Imamia Medics International and International Relief and Development on joint activities in Iraq.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

Representatives of Al-Hakim Foundation regularly attended the meetings of the Human Rights Council and its universal periodic review, Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Commission for Social Development, Commission on the Status of Women and Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. They also attended the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, held in Doha from 29 November to 2 December 2008.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

In 2007, Al-Hakim Foundation organized and participated in a two-day conference entitled "Iraq for all Iraqis" at the United Nations. Eighty participants gathered for the dialogue, including the Iraqi Minister for Foreign Affairs and the Permanent and Deputy Permanent Representatives to the United Nations. The purpose was to forge global partnerships to rebuild Iraqi national consensus.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

The Foundation sponsored 85,000 orphans through the "Orphan Sponsorship Programme"; provided financial, food and medical assistance to poor families; supported 52,638 internally displaced families in Iraq; supported the marriage of 4,767 orphans; and provided urgent grants for 8,919 families who had lost their homes as a result of violence.

The Foundation sponsored educational institutes and ran 53 preschools as part of a project named "Ahbab Alsidiqa Preschools" in 14 Iraqi cities. The project included 4,430 students. The Foundation also operated a group of Al-Imam Ali schools in three provinces. This included eight elementary and two high schools; the number of students was 2,306.

The Foundation promoted gender equality and empowered women by creating job opportunities in its schools, where 80 per cent of the staff are women. It opened educational centres especially for women that offer classes in computers, nursing, sewing, medical first aid, dressmaking and handicrafts.

In 2007, it established the Dar Al-Hakma School for Humanitarian and Cultural Studies for Women, which has 365 students and 40 teachers.

With the cooperation of Imamia Medics International, the Foundation implemented a project to collect 1,000 nebulisers for distribution to children with asthma in Iraqi villages.

In December 2009, it distributed 75 wheelchairs to disabled children in Basra, in cooperation with International Relief and Development.

In February of the same year, in cooperation with the Department of Health, it implemented an educational health campaign in Numaniya on the importance of vaccinating children. In November 2008, the Foundation held a seminar in Babil on the causes of cholera outbreaks and methods of prevention. Also in 2008, it implemented a "visiting doctor" project in many southern Iraqi villages, where female doctors visited poor families, performed medical examinations on women, educated families about common diseases and distributed pregnancy tests and necessary medications. In February 2007, the Foundation organized a seminar in Wasit on the causes, prevention and treatment of polio. Between 2007 and 2010, it distributed 630 wheelchairs to handicapped children.

In August 2010, the Foundation applied for operational relations with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

**Additional information**

The Foundation now operates in most areas of Iraq, having opened new branches in the western part of the country. It also established three international offices in Beirut, Geneva and New York.

## 3. Bhagwan Mahaveer Viklang Sahayata Samiti Jaipur

**Special, 2007**

### Introduction

Bhagwan Mahaveer Viklang Sahayata Samiti Jaipur is a registered society in India. It operates mainly in India but also has activities in other parts of the world, including a joint venture in Colombia and associate centres in Pakistan and the Philippines. It holds camps in other countries and trains technicians from various parts of the world in Jaipur limb technology. It is a non-political, non-religious NGO dedicated to service.

### Aims and purposes of the organization

Rehabilitation of the disabled, in particular persons without resources, in India and worldwide. This is achieved by providing artificial limbs, calipers, wheelchairs and other aids and appliances to the disabled. On a selective basis, efforts are made to promote the economic rehabilitation of the disabled.

### Significant changes in the organization

The organization increased its coverage, including by holding camps in Iraq, Lebanon, Pakistan, Senegal and Sri Lanka.

### Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization held on-the-spot camps to fit artificial limbs in Lebanon in April 2007 (90 limbs/calipers) and in July 2008 (146 limbs/calipers); in Pakistan (Islamabad and Karachi) in August 2007 (987 limbs/calipers); in Iraq in March and April 2010 (882 limbs); in Sri Lanka in March and April 2010 (1,210 limbs); and in Senegal in July 2010 (607 limbs).

This humanitarian work is in line with the objectives of the Economic and Social Council. In Pakistan, the fact that an Indian organization was holding camps was greatly appreciated as a brotherly effort. The organization also helped two local organizations to set up permanent limb-fitting centres. The centre in Karachi has already fitted more than 5,000 limbs. The camp in war-torn Iraq and the camp in the Tamil area of Sri Lanka were greatly appreciated. It should be noted that the camp in Lebanon was set up with the support of the Indian contingent of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon.

### Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization informed the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations about its willingness to hold limb-fitting camps in Haiti after the earthquake. However, it is still awaiting a response.

### Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

One of the organization's major goals is to increase the coverage of its rehabilitation programme so that the disabled achieve mobility and dignity. Its geographical coverage has grown enormously; more than 1.2 million disabled persons have been

given limbs (over 400,000), calipers (over 300,000) and other aids and appliances (over 500,000). From April 2007 to March 2011, 258,000 disabled benefited in India alone. Overall, the organization has provided limbs to 19,378 amputees in 25 countries. It is the world's largest organization for the disabled in terms of sheer coverage.

**Additional information**

The organization provides assistance free of charge and has the capacity to hold on-the-spot limb/caliper-fitting camps anywhere in the world. The average cost of a limb in such camps varies between $200 and $300 compared to the several thousand dollars per limb incurred by other organizations. With respect to research and development, the organization has a memorandum of understanding with Stanford University, in the United States of America which led to the development of a new knee joint for above-knee amputees. This joint was rated as one of the 50 best inventions in the world in 2009; the organization has already fitted more than 2,600 persons. Similar collaboration was undertaken with other international and Indian organizations. The society is currently collaborating with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in the United States on the development of a manually operated wheelchair that is rugged and can operate on undulated terrain. It has a memorandum of understanding with another organization in the United States to manufacture a "whirlwind wheelchair", which also is manually operated and especially useful on rough terrain. Such wheelchairs are very cost-effective and, once manufactured on a large scale, would find a market in large countries. This is a good example of international technical cooperation that benefits humanity.

## 4. Caritas Internationalis

**General, 1999**

**Introduction**

Caritas Internationalis is a global confederation of 165 national Catholic humanitarian, social services and development organizations working in over 200 countries and territories worldwide.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

The organization has four main objectives: (a) responding to emergencies: Caritas Internationalis is recognized for its rapid response, technical expertise and effective coordination in emergency programming and disaster preparedness; (b) integral human development: the confederation provides effective technical expertise and coordination to regions and member organizations to empower the poor to become the drivers of their own development; (c) building sustainable peace: Caritas Internationalis is coordinating processes aimed at transforming unjust structures and conflict non - violently, promoting peacebuilding through interfaith dialogue and building one united human community; (d) adapting the structures, processes and finances of the confederation: Caritas Internationalis will adapt its internal governance, operational structures and systems in order to respond dynamically to contemporary needs and to ensure effective management, financial sustainability and the building of strategic alliances across its network.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

During the period 2007-2010, the organization's representatives participated in sessions of the Commission for Social Development, the Commission on Sustainable Development and the Commission on the Status of Women and in meetings on financing for development and the status of indigenous peoples. Its Humanitarian Director is a member of the group of humanitarian coordinators of the United Nations and has regularly been part of interview panels for the humanitarian coordinator pool.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

The confederation actively participated in weekly meetings of the inter-agency standing committee on priority humanitarian situations of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. It served on task forces as critical emergencies unfolded and was an invited speaker on key country situations and cross-sector issues. It provided the Office with timely resource data from the field and from relevant partnerships between the confederation and churches on the ground, especially to support preparatory teams before executive missions. It worked with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Political Affairs. It continued to maintain close collaboration with the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), on the basis of a memorandum of understanding on a joint commitment to promote HIV/AIDS awareness, activities to mitigate the impact of the epidemic and advocacy in the context of the 2001 Declaration of Commitment on UNAIDS. In April 2008, the confederation's Special Adviser on HIV/AIDS gave a presentation at a UNAIDS Religion and Faith-Based Organization Working Group strategy development meeting, focusing on strengthening collaboration between faith communities and United Nations agencies on responding to the HIV pandemic. In addition, UNAIDS co-sponsored a Caritas Internationalis conference on paediatric HIV and HIV/Tuberculosis (TB) co-infection, held in Rome in October 2009; the Executive Director of UNAIDS was the keynote speaker at the conference. In January 2008, the confederation organized, in collaboration with the Stop TB Department of the World Health Organization (WHO), a joint mission to Swaziland to promote greater collaboration between the Government of Swaziland and faith-based organizations responding to HIV and tuberculosis in the country. Caritas Internationalis endorsed the WHO "Make Medicines Child Size Campaign" in 2008, 2009 and 2010, attended the partners' meetings for the Campaign and provided verbal input at the 2010 session. In 2007, its Geneva delegation contributed to the draft of the 2007 conclusions on children at risk of the Executive Committee of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). It participated regularly in the UNHCR-NGO annual consultations, in 2008 with a side event on the protection of unaccompanied children; in 2009 with a statement and side event on the forgotten refugees from and internally displaced persons in Colombia and a contribution on displacement in urban settings; and in 2010 by taking the lead in the session on protracted refugee situations in camp settings. In April 2009, the confederation organized a side event on the human rights of migrant domestic workers with the Committee on Migrant Workers.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

The confederation produced a special feature on its website, entitled "Halftime but not halfway: MDGs and HIV" (see http://www.caritas.org/activities/hiv_aids/HalftimeNotHalfway.html), which detailed the impact of the HIV pandemic on progress towards achieving the Goals.

## 5. Center for Inter-Ethnic Cooperation

**Special, 2007**

**Introduction**

Center for Inter-Ethnic Cooperation was founded in 1997 and is located in Moscow.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

The main aim of the Center for Inter-Ethnic Cooperation is to support civil society development, in particular the idea of tolerance in Russian Federation society. To achieve this aim, it organizes various conferences, training programmes, seminars and round-table discussions in different regions of the country. These events are devoted to inter-ethnic problems, the high level of intolerance among Russian Federation youth, the promotion of gender inequality, etc. The heads of more than 400 NGOs from 30 regions of the Russian Federation, representatives of the federal and local authorities, law enforcement agencies, relief organizations and the mass media, and young people constitute the main participants. The Center created the Internet newspaper "Inter-Ethnic" (see www.interethnic.org) and the Internet Network of Ethnic Associations, whose members include more than 160 ethnic associations from 46 regions of the Russian Federation. The Center's projects have been supported by the European Union, the Council of Europe, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the British Council and the United States Foundations MacArthur, Charles Stewart Mott, the National Endowment for Democracy and IREX, as well as the embassies of Germany, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States.

**Significant changes in the organization**

The Center widened the scope of its activities during the period 2007-2010. Experience showed that it was impossible to solve the problems of ethnic minorities in the Russian Federation without the active participation of young people. The problem of gender equality also appeared to be one of the most important challenges. Without a developed civil society, it was impossible to work on these issues. The Center, which had previously focused solely on solving the problems of ethnic minorities, widened its activities and began to focus on civil society development with extensive involvement of young people. What is more, international cooperation became a very important factor in the Center's development strategy.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

During the period 2007-2010, the Center implemented the following projects: (a) with the support of the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation: training programmes for ethnic association representatives aimed at civil society rights protection; (b) with the support of the European Union: support for regional ethnic communities in the Russian Federation; building capacities and networks for immigrant and ethnic minority women: an integrated approach and project to fight gender and ethnic discrimination in the Russian Federation; utilization of the Internet Network of Ethnic Associations for organizing mass campaigns in the media to propagate cultural tolerance in youth circles; (c) with the support of the Embassy of Germany: prevention of inter-ethnic conflicts in municipal districts of the Russian Federation; (d) with the support of the Embassy of the United Kingdom: prevention of inter-ethnic conflict in the Russian Federation; cooperation on the prevention of inter-ethnic conflicts in the North Caucasus; (e) with the support of the Embassy of the United States: opposing extremism among young people; workshops and training sessions for young activists and students; (f) with the support of the Swedish International Cooperation Development Agency: training for young leaders on the promotion of gender equality in the north-western part of the Russian Federation.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

**2008**: Representatives of the Center attended the sixty-first Annual Conference for Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) associated with the United Nations Department of Public Information in Paris in September.

**2009**: Representatives of the Center attended the Durban Review Conference in Geneva in April. They also took part in working groups during the preparatory meeting for the Durban Review Conference in Geneva.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

The Center has successfully cooperated with the United Nations country team for the Russian Federation for many years. The Senior Human Rights Adviser of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) to the country team and other representatives of the team attended many events organized by the Center. Representatives of the Center also actively participated in activities organized by the country team.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

In seven regions, special centres called "Femina" were established to provide psychological, judicial and informational support to women from ethnic minorities and migrants.

## 6. Child Development Foundation

**Special, 2007**

### Introduction

Child Development Foundation was established in Khartoum, in 1999. It promotes the rights of the child and the protection of war-affected children, child soldiers, street children, internally displaced persons and refugee children, child labourers and orphans. It operates in Gedaref state, Kassala, Khartoum, Southern Darfur and Western Darfur.

### Aims and purposes of the organization

Promoting child rights and protection; peacebuilding; advocating for girl children; rendering services to vulnerable children; capacity-building of stakeholders; and poverty alleviation. The Foundation achieves its aims through project implementation, capacity-building and advocacy.

### Significant changes in the organization

The Foundation expanded its geographical range to address major challenges and emerging issues in Darfur and East Sudan and amplified its operations to include such new areas as disarmament, demobilization and reintegration, legal reform and juvenile justice.

### Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The Foundation conducted reintegration activities for children associated with armed forces and groups in collaboration with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Programme in Gedaref, Khartoum and Western Darfur states between 2007 and 2009. A total of 271 beneficiaries were released from armed forces and groups. Indirect beneficiaries included 270 members of protection networks, 2,250 vulnerable children and 2,250 community members.

In 2010, the Foundation supported children and young people affected by war in Southern Darfur state, in partnership with the common Humanitarian Fund for the Sudan. A total of 15,000 young people and children benefited. From 2010 and continuing to 2012, in cooperation with the relevant ministries and the International Labour Organization (ILO), it prepared a project on tackling child labour through education in Northern Sudan.

The Foundation led an advocacy campaign for children who were involved in the military attack launched by the Justice and Equality Movement on Omdurman in May 2008. The children were pardoned and arrangements were made to set them free.

The Director General of the Foundation attended the first regional conference on cross-border trafficking of children in Chad in 2008, organized by UNICEF.

The Foundation participated in the monitoring of the elections in the Sudan in February 2010, in collaboration with the National Elections Commission and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

It also contributed to the preparatory process for the Southern Sudan referendum in January 2011.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

The Foundation attended the following meetings:

- Eighth and ninth sessions of the Human Rights Council, Geneva, June and September 2008 (presented an oral statement on the abduction and trafficking of Sudanese children)
- Preparatory consultations of the Executive Committee of UNHCR, Geneva, June 2008, on supporting refugee children
- Dubai International Humanitarian Aid and Development Conference and Exhibition, held in collaboration with UNDP, 2008-2010
- Conference on trauma mitigation organized in collaboration with WHO in Alexandria, Egypt, 2007
- "Free Children from War" conference on child soldiers, Paris, February 2007
- Attended Department of Public Information conference organized in France, 2008
- Civil Society Development Forum held with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs on global public health in the context of the global economic crisis, Geneva, July 2009
- Civil Society Development Forum on the theme "Women's human rights and development: inclusion, participation, and equality", New York, May 2010
- Meeting concerning recommendations by NGOs to the Committee on the Rights of the Child regarding the implementation in the Sudan of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

The Foundation:

(a) Participated in efforts by UNICEF to endorse the Federal Child Act in 2010;

(b) Contributed within the framework of the national mechanism sponsored by UNICEF (2007-2009) to establish child and family protection units within the police throughout the Sudan;

(c) Conducted an awareness campaign on child rights in Kassala state in 2009 and 2010, in partnership with UNICEF and UNDP. A total of 13,800 schoolchildren benefited from the project.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

The Foundation endeavoured to achieve universal primary education through an accelerated learning programme targeting children in the eastern states and Darfur. It participated in the Day of the African Child in Nyala, Southern Darfur, to stop the

recruitment of children and in the World Day Against Child Labour in Khartoum in 2010.

## 7. Children of the World: Regional Public Charitable Fund of Assistance to Cultural and Sports Development of Children and Young People

**Special, 2007**

**Introduction**

The Fund was established to create and promote a worldwide movement of people for a healthy lifestyle.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

- Bring the peoples of the world together in a universal movement for a healthy lifestyle ("Planet People's Games")
- Create a mechanism to attract people worldwide to the movement
- Create a global information bank to process data from participants
- Collective and individual teaching for young people and adults about the basics of a healthy lifestyle
- Establish an international website
- Conduct five health and sports festivals called "Planet Peoples' Games" among the staff of municipalities
- Conduct four health and sports festivals called "presidential competitions" among schoolchildren

**Significant changes in the organization**

No changes.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

(a) The Fund proposed that the United Nations strengthen its role in the development of the global movement for a healthy lifestyle and that the General Assembly consider the topic;

(b) The Fund presented the fitness movement "Planet Peoples' Games" at Headquarters in New York on 19 July 2007 (see Journal No. 2007/138), jointly with the United Nations Office on Sport for Development and Peace;

(c) The Fund conducted negotiations on cooperation with the United Nations Office on Sport for Development and Peace, New York, July 2007.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

Negotiating with UNICEF on joint activities, July 2007.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

- Joint presentation on "Planet Peoples' Games"
- Joint implementation of the world health movement with the United Nations Office on Sport for Development and Peace

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

- Establishment of our organization to promote a global movement for a healthy lifestyle
- Establishment of international monitoring of fitness levels and health
- Creation of a global databank of participants in this recreational movement (see www. planetpg.org)

**Additional information**

- Our organization is looking for closer contact with the Economic and Social Council to work together on a global health movement for people worldwide under the auspices of the United Nations
- Our organization is willing to make a presentation at a meeting of the Council on the topic "Organization of the world movement 'Planet Peoples' Games' for a healthy lifestyle for people worldwide"

## 8. Chinese Association for International Understanding

**Special, 2003**

**Introduction**

No changes

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

No changes

**Significant changes in the organization**

No changes

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

(a) Seventh and eighth Asia-Europe People's Forum held in Beijing and Brussels in October 2008 and 2010 respectively. The Association co-sponsored and chaired one of the sub-forums of the seventh Forum on the theme "Social and economic rights and environmental justice". Representatives attended the eighth Forum and made suggestions for the final outcome document;

(b) Seventh and ninth World Social Forum in January 2007 and 2009 in Kenya and Brazil respectively; the Association organized relevant workshops and exhibitions on the Forums;

(c) 2007, 2008 and 2010 Global Summit of Women in Berlin, Hanoi and Beijing; the Association gave a presentation at the 2010 Summit on the topic "Leading change for women through our cities";

(d) Fourth, fifth and seventh Northeast Asia Youth Forum in Seoul in August 2007, 2008 and 2010 respectively;

(e) Annual World Conference against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs in Japan from 2007 to 2010;

(f) World Peace Forum at the Great Wall of China, Qinhuangdao, July 2009; the Association co-sponsored the Forum on the occasion of the sixtieth anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China and signed the outcome document of the Forum, "Peaceful Declaration of the Great Wall".

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

The Association:

(a) Attended the sixtieth, sixty-first, sixty-second and sixty-third annual Department of Public Information/NGO Conferences held in New York, Paris, Mexico City and Melbourne, Australia, respectively;

(b) Co-sponsored the second and third Conferences of the United Nations NGO Informal Regional Network/Asia-Pacific in Beijing in June 2007 and April 2008; spoke at the second Conference on "The responsibility and role of NGOs in poverty alleviation" and addressed the third Conference on "Sustainable development and green Olympics";

(c) Attended the 2007 Civil Society Development Forum sponsored by the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations and the 2007 High-level Segment of the Economic and Social Council in Geneva;

(d) Encouraged civic participation in tackling social problems at the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) plus 3 workshop, held in Jakarta in October 2007;

(e) Attended the United Nations Climate Change Conferences in Copenhagen and Cancun in December 2009 and November 2010 respectively and worked with other Chinese NGOs to host side meetings at the Conferences.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

(a) Attended the sixtieth and sixty-second annual sessions of the World Health Assembly in Geneva in May 2007 and 2009;

(b) Attended the eighth International Congress on AIDS in Asia and the Pacific in Colombo in 2007.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

**Goal 1 (Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger).** Actions: Received a donation of $100,000 from the civil association "Polish House", the Kazankai Foundation and Initiatives of Change — Japan for quake victims in Wenchuan, Sichuan province, in 2008.

**Goal 2 (Achieve universal primary education).** Actions: Cooperated with the Rotary Club of Australia in Hebei, Shaanxi and Ningxia, China, in 2008 and 2009; built or renovated three schools; donated 10,000 books.

**Goal 7 (Ensure environmental sustainability).** Actions: Assisting the NGP Group of Japan in promoting the development of the automobile recycling industry; signed two projects.

**Goal 8 (Develop a global partnership for development).** Actions: Cooperated with the Hiroshima prefectural government to provide professional training for Japanese teachers in central and western China and trained five teachers. The Secretary-General of the Association attended the commemoration of United Nations South-South Cooperation Day in Beijing in December 2008. He remarked on the role of NGOs in poverty alleviation and China's recent achievements.

**Additional information**

(a) The Association organized 20 people-to-people exchanges with other countries every year from 2007 to 2010, to increase mutual understanding and promote dialogue among different civilizations;

(b) From 2007 to 2010, it annually co-sponsored the "China-Germany comprehensive security dialogue" with the Friedrich Ebert Organization on important international issues.

## 9. Convention of Independent Financial Advisors

**Special, 2007**

**Introduction**

Convention of Independent Financial Advisors was created in 2001 at the initiative of a group of financial advisers; its aim is to protect and defend the interests of independent financial advisers and their clients worldwide.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

The organization facilitates a crucial discussion platform on finance through its unique status and the support of over 50 partner associations or international federations worldwide, representing over 750,000 financial advisers. In its international capacity, it represents independent financial advisers worldwide with respect to governance, norms, best practices and ethics. It protects the rights of investors who are affected by financial risk that is inadequately handled by legislators and regulators. For that purpose, the organization created the Charter of Investors' Rights in 2008. The Charter defines the fundamental and inalienable rights and principles of investors so that they may benefit from a legal framework that preserves their personal and intellectual property. It attempts to respect the legislation, traditions and customs of all the countries that ratify it. The Charter undertakes to respect the fundamental rights of mankind as defined in the Charter of the United Nations. To achieve its goals, the Convention organizes an annual high-level international forum. During the reporting period, forums were held in Geneva (2007), Prague (2008), Paris (2009), Madrid (2010) and Monte Carlo (2011). The

financial crises that started in 2008 motivated the Association to pursue its goals more aggressively.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

The sixth international forum of the Convention was held in Prague in April 2008 on the theme "The investor's freedom or the consumer's protection". It was noted that, as one of the Millennium Development Goals, sustainable development required a coherent financial system that was rule-based and committed to implementing good governance.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

(a) Economic and Social Council 2008 High-level Segment; (b) Preparatory Committee for the twelfth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD): hearing with civil society and the private sector, Geneva, March 2008; (c) UNCTAD meeting on the financial crisis and its implications for the international financial reporting architecture and financial stability, Geneva, July 2009; (d) General debate on the world financial and economic crisis and its impact on development, New York, 2009; (e) twenty-fourth to twenty-seventh sessions of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting concerning the International Financial Reporting Standards.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

The organization has been accredited to UNCTAD since January 2008 and has collaborated with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) since March 2011. UNITAR and the organization launched an innovative training partnership on ethics and finance with a view to "moralizing" the finance sector and protecting the interests of investors in the wake of the international financial crisis.

**Additional information**

The organization adopted the Charter of Investors' Rights defining the fundamental and inalienable rights of the investor.

## 10. Citizens' Coalition for Economic Justice

**Special, 1999**

**Introduction**

Citizens' Coalition for Economic Justice was formed in response to the extremely unjust structure of economic life in the Republic of Korea today. Rapid economic development over the past 30 years has brought wealth to giant business groups singled out by the Government for preferential treatment and has raised the per capita gross national product (GNP) to more than $20,000. In this process, however, equitable distribution was forgotten, the environment gravely damaged, and democratic development postponed. The priority on industrialization and urbanization alienated large groups and areas and created wide structural gaps, even risking a collapse of the economic system.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

The Coalition was founded in 1989 by some 500 persons representing various walks of life, including economics professors and other specialists, lawyers, housewives, students, young adults and business people. Their slogan, "Achieve economic justice by empowering citizens" reflected their belief that deep-rooted economic injustices could not be cured by government alone, but ultimately must be solved through the organized power of citizens. They believed that the fruits of economic development should be shared by the general population, not just the small group of "haves", and proposed a new methodology of gradual but thorough reform of the economic system. They founded the Coalition as a movement that would (a) be led by ordinary citizens; (b) use legal and non-violent methods; (c) seek workable alternatives; (d) represent the interests of all people, regardless of economic standing; (e) work to overcome greed and egoism in order to build a sharing society.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

Since obtaining consultative status with the Council, the Coalition has taken active steps in the international field. It works to achieve international solidarity and networking and acts on international issues relating to fair distribution, poverty eradication and sustainable development.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

The Coalition's "Society for the Reunification of Korea", which promotes the empowerment of citizens, policy research, civilian exchange projects and other activities with the goal of constructing a reunified Korean nation where economic justice prevails, joined in the Global Day of Action on Military Spending on 12 April 2011 to coincide with the release of the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute's new annual figures on world military expenditures. The Society's programmes focus not only on a reunified Korean nation but also on "sustainable disarmament for sustainable development" worldwide.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

The Coalition has confronted many kinds of crises in society in the Republic of Korea, including poverty, hunger, lack of education and poor health care, and realizes that they are not just national problems but also international problems which should be addressed by global movements. It has therefore tried to cooperate with United Nations bodies on sustainable development, human rights, climate change and peace since the 1990s. For example, it organized a "white bands campaign" against poverty in 2009. During the campaign, it worked together with the Korean National Commission for UNESCO and has continued to work with UNESCO to combat poverty since that time.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

The Coalition launched the Korean Network of NGOs against Global Poverty in 2005; the Network is an alliance of 25 civil society organizations affiliated with the movement "Global Call to Action against Poverty" and works together with the Korean National Commission for UNESCO. As a representative group of the Network, the Coalition strives to impress upon civil society organizations the

importance of achieving the Goals and to strongly encourage the Government of the Republic of Korea to assume the role of a wealthy State with an increasing level of world influence. It also strives to increase public awareness of and participation in various activities to end poverty and has organized many action campaigns and events in the Republic of Korea, expressing solidarity with national NGOs.

## 11. Community Social Welfare Foundation

**Special, 1999**

**Introduction**

No changes

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

No changes

**Significant changes in the organization**

No changes

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

The Foundation currently provides support in the following areas:

- Safe water and health centres
- Renovation of school buildings and other dilapidated public structures
- Increased awareness of diseases and infections such as HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, polio and Lassa fever, with a view to preventing their spread
- Organization of community groups for cooperative development efforts
- Establishment and maintenance of adult education centres

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

The Foundation participated in the fifteenth and sixteenth sessions of the Commission on Sustainable Development at Headquarters in New York.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

None

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

- Organized cooperative societies to boost access to funds and commodities
- Set up primary education centres for adults
- Renovated dilapidated structures in primary schools
- Sponsored nurses and other health-care workers to implement maternal health-care programmes in rural areas

- Raised funds for the provision of water boreholes
- Organized voluntary sanitation groups

**Additional information**

None

## 12. Company of the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul

**Special, 2007**

**Introduction**

The Company of the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul is an international faith-based organization founded in Paris to alleviate the suffering of people living in poverty. It currently operates in 91 countries, 70 of which are developing countries.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

The organization strives to respond to the socio-economic, cultural and political realities of each location and is committed to the full, integral development of human beings. It is particularly concerned about persons who are forced to live in situations of extreme poverty, especially women and children.

**Significant changes in the organization**

None

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

Participation in the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations (2007-2010), the NGO Committee on Social Development, the NGO Committee on Migration, the NGO Committee on Sustainable Development (2009 and 2010), the NGO Committee on HIV/AIDS, the NGO Committee on Financing for Development and the NGO Committee on UNICEF: Working Group on Girls (2009-2011).

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

Participation in the Economic and Social Council (2007-2010):

(a) Commission for Social Development (2007-2010)

Oral interventions:

- Forty-seventh session on the priority theme "Social inclusion"
- Forty-ninth session on the priority theme "Eradication of poverty"

(b) Commission on the Status of Women (2007-2010). The organization co-sponsored side events and submitted written statements;

(c) Commission on Sustainable Development (2007-2010). The organization co-sponsored two side events at the eighteenth session on "Exploring the

implications of the ecological civilization" and "Consumption and the rights of Mother Earth";

(d) Meetings relating to financing for development (2007-2010). The main representative made an oral statement at the informal review session of Chapter I of the Monterrey Consensus in February 2008 and contributed to civil society's key recommendations for the Doha draft outcome document. She participated in the high-level meetings of the Council with the Bretton Woods institutions, the World Trade Organization and UNCTAD in March 2010;

(e) Human Rights Council. The organization addressed the Human Rights Council in 2008, attended the twelfth to sixteenth sessions of the Human Rights Council and the sixth to eleventh sessions of the Universal Periodic Review;

(f) Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. Members attended the Forum each year (2007-2010).

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

The organization participated in the 2008 high-level meeting on AIDS. Members from more than 30 countries participated in two surveys initiated by the NGO Committee on Social Development in collaboration with the Non-Governmental Liaison Service entitled "Social integration in action: stories from the grass roots" (2009) and "Promoting social integration: voices from the grass roots" (2010). Results of the surveys were made available to Member States and civil society prior to the forty-eighth and forty-ninth sessions of the Commission for Social Development.

## 13. Consultative Council of Jewish Organizations

**Special, 1947**

**Introduction**

In 2009, the organization strengthened its position as the leading educational human rights organization in the Jewish community. It forged links with more government agencies than ever before and worked with a growing number of partners for the rights of vulnerable people in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and around the world. These include Rothschild Foundation Europe, the Shoresh Charitable Trust, the Samuel Sebba Charitable Trust, The Leigh Trust, Humanitarian Trust and Matrix Chambers.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

Advocacy and campaigns:

(a) Campaign to challenge policies concerning the detention of asylum-seekers, including indefinite detention and the detention of vulnerable persons;

(b) Campaign to draw awareness to widespread discrimination throughout Europe against the Roma people;

(c) Campaign to end slavery, coinciding with Passover in 2011;

(d) Produce a "Haggadah" resource which will empower supporters to actively engage in and assist the organization's campaign;

(e) Maintain relationships with parliamentarians and officials in the organization's four core policy areas so that it can offer a Jewish voice on human rights issues;

(f) Offer a year-long activist enrichment programme to develop young professionals into committed and knowledgeable human rights campaigners. The programme involves a trip to Geneva, The Hague and Strasbourg, France, during which participants are offered the unique opportunity to meet with influential figures who shape international human rights and to sit in on meetings of various international bodies;

(g) Hold human rights training days and human rights Sabbaths, which engage different sections of the Jewish and general community and provide invaluable training and education on human rights issues;

(h) Develop projects for students aimed at promoting the ethos of rights, respect and responsibility and an integrated, holistic approach to human rights and social justice education in Jewish schools. The project is being implemented in cooperation with UNICEF.

**Significant changes in the organization**

The organization increased its educational initiatives and introduced new components to its programmes, including the UNICEF "Rights Respecting Schools Award". Recent achievements include:

(a) Co-founding and working in collaboration with the Detention Forum to campaign for an end to child detention in the United Kingdom;

(b) Providing input from the Jewish community to the Government of the United Kingdom on proposed human rights legislation. The organization's input was well-received by parliamentarians and played an important role in the campaign to retain the Human Rights Act 1998;

(c) Producing the "detention toolkit", which will empower aspiring activists by providing the tools necessary to promote fair treatment of asylum-seekers in the United Kingdom.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

The organization lent its voice to discussions on human rights violations in the Sudan and spoke out against racism, discrimination and genocide wherever they occurred.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

The organization intervened in numerous sessions, including those of the Human Rights Council. Examples include the fourth special session on Darfur, in December 2006, the fourth session, in 2007, and the seventh session, in 2008.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

The organization cooperated extensively with UNICEF.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

The organization's educational initiatives are freely available and are in line with the Goals in that they focus on the universality of human rights, including the right to universal education and equality. Its campaign for asylum-seekers drew on the Goals concerning maternal and child health; the purpose of the campaign was to end the detention of women and children in the United Kingdom, using evidence of the negative impact on their health and well-being. Its project on rights, respect and responsibility sought to incorporate the Convention on the Rights of the Child into the ethos of participating schools, thereby supporting the human rights of children, which are closely linked with several of the Goals.

## 14. Dignity International

**Special, 2007**

**Introduction**

Dignity International brings together human rights, development and struggling communities that are working together to bring about lasting social change.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

To bring about lasting social change by strengthening the capacity of marginalized and vulnerable sectors of society to become aware of and claim their human right to live life in dignity.

**Significant changes in the organization**

The organization succeeded in helping people to assert their rights, especially their economic, social and cultural rights, and to demand that the State respect them. Participatory and democratic processes that stem from the grass roots and are needs-based ensure that genuine concerns are put on the table for Governments to take further action for the common good. One example is the struggle for land rights in India, where the Minister for Rural Development announced the creation of the National Land Reform Committee, which will start implementing a land reform policy.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

The organization's contribution to the work of the United Nations cuts across the board since it ensures democratic and inclusive grass-roots participation in United Nations mechanisms and furthers understanding of the principles of the United Nations and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in particular. This is accomplished primarily through the organization's global linking and learning programme on human rights-based development, which has a specific focus on the Covenant. The programme was implemented in Malaysia (December 2007), Brazil (2008), the Netherlands (2009) and Malaysia (2010).

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Geneva, November 2008; Durban Review Conference, Geneva, April 2009; eighth session of the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Effective Implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, Geneva, October 2010.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

In 2007, together with its partners Hakijamii Trust and Youth for Unity and Voluntary Action (YUVA) India, the organization made a joint submission at the OHCHR civil society consultations on the proposed international law emphasizing the fight against extreme poverty as an obligation for all States.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

Dignity International mainstreams the Goals through its various annual global, regional and national training programmes. A comprehensive component on the Goals is included in the module entitled "Human rights-based development: links to human rights standards". Since all the organization's grass-roots members are directly affected by the eight Goals, different members mainstream different Goals according to their respective priorities.

**Additional information**

In addition to its active intervention and advocacy at the United Nations, the organization engages with regional human rights networks at the civil society and State levels, including:

(a) ASEAN: Active participation in the formation of the Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights;

(b) West African Civil Society Forum: Active engagement with its members and building regional solidarity for human rights among West African civil society organizations (2010);

(c) South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC): SAARC regional linking and learning programme on human rights-based development, April and May 2008;

(d) European Union: Active engagement by the organization's partner networks with European Union authorities regarding ending poverty in Europe (2007 and 2008);

(e) World Social Forum: Organization of various discussions on human rights and development and on economic, social and cultural rights (Kenya, 2007; Brazil, 2009).

## 15. Disabled Peoples International

**Special, 1983**

### Introduction

Disabled Peoples International is a global cross-disability network of 134 member organizations of persons with disabilities.

### Aims and purposes of the organization

As a grass-roots organization, Disabled Peoples International believes that persons with disabilities should participate directly in dialogue and decision-making processes that affect their lives.

### Significant changes in the organization

No changes

### Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization's primary focus is on human rights and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities; respect for diversity; and poverty and the Millennium Development Goals. It developed several tools for monitoring the signature, ratification and implementation of the Convention, including a timeline of major activities, a guide on organizing workshops on the Convention and a needs assessment form. It increased global recognition of women with disabilities by working with the International Women's Tribune Centre, which highlighted interviews with the organization's representatives on the Convention in two of its newsletters. It submitted a document entitled "Suggestions for the rules of procedure of the Committee on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities" to OHCHR, which the Committee posted on the OHCHR Intranet site. The organization partnered with WHO, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics to publish a book entitled "Guidelines on the provision of manual wheelchairs in less resourced settings". The World Bank included material from the organization in its web-based disability knowledge toolkit which is available to United Nations agencies and the public. Partnership with World Vision led a number of Governments to include people with disabilities in their reports to the Human Rights Council as part of their universal periodic review.

### Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization participated in a group lobbying effort to raise the profile of disability in the field at the Executive Committee of UNHCR, which was organized by World Vision and Handicap International. As a result, UNHCR agreed to focus on disability issues in its programming for 2011. The organization participated in the sessions of the Conference of Sates Parties to the Convention, in the third session of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and in the UNESCO flagship "The Right to Education for Persons with Disabilities: Towards Inclusion".

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

In January 2010, the organization helped to plan and supported a seminar on the monitoring of disability rights initiated by OHCHR and International Disability Alliance. In December 2007, it held a symposium in the Philippines with over 130 participants on ensuring that the human rights of children and young people with disabilities were reinforced by the Convention. The symposium was attended by participants from the United Nations, the World Bank, World Vision and national human rights institutes. The United Nations Population Fund held a two-day meeting with the organization to discuss sexual and reproductive health-care issues and develop a fact sheet on sexual and reproductive health. At its seventh annual world assembly, the organization held a special side event on behalf of the Fund on HIV/AIDS, maternal health and the right of persons with disabilities to sexual and reproductive health-care services. It also signed a letter of agreement with the Global Alliance for Information and Communication Technologies and Development to ensure the accessibility of information and communications technologies around the globe.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

Member organizations of Disabled Peoples International around the world celebrated the International Day of Persons with Disabilities in 2010 under the theme "Keeping the promise: mainstreaming disability in the MDGs towards 2015 and beyond". The aim was to highlight the importance of incorporating the rights of persons with disabilities into the Goals, a deficit that had been identified at the civil society forum held during the Third Conference of States Parties to the Convention.